(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the Centre has considered this proposal; and

(c) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The security arrangement at the airports have been reviewed and the following measures have been taken to strengthen security at the airports in order to prevent hijacking and other unlawful interference with Civil Aviation operations:—

(i) Deployment of Sky Marshals on all routes of scheduled airlines.
(ii) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) is being ensured at all operational airports in a time-bound manner.
(iii) Deployment of Quick Reaction Teams at major airports.
(iv) Ladder point security check of passengers and their hand baggage made mandatory.

Anti-terrorist Special Cells in States

697. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state·

(a) whether it is a fact that all State Governments have Anti-terrorist Special Cells to face any unprecedented situation in the country;

(b) if so, what are the names of the Cells in various States and their activities;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry is planning to give any uniform direction to set up such Cells; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) The Central Government has been sensitizing the States about the threat perceptions regarding activities of militant and terrorist groups in the country from time to time. Periodic meetings have also been held with the State Governments in order to evolve strategies to counter the designs of anti-national elements.

In this context, all States have been requested to set up anti-terrorist cells, to be above to deal with terrorist activities more effectively. The Cells

would focus on collection and sharing of information and closely monitoring the activities of terrorists/militants, including those backed by ISI for follow up action. Some States such as Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Rajasthan and Tripura have set up such cells. However, some other States have also set up mechanisms for counter-terrorist measures, such as anti-terrorist squads, special task forces, dedicated units etc.

SIMI operating in the grab of secret outfit

698. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item captioned "SIMI operating in the grab of secret outfit" appearing in Hindustan Times dated 31st December, 2001;

(b) if so, what are the details; and

(c) what steps have been taken to check the activities of the secret outfit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) There is no specific information with the Government of India that SIMI is operating in the grab of a secret outfit. However, the SIMI activists are continuing with their efforts to carry on their activities under the banner of different fronts. A close watch is being kept by the law enforcement agencies on their activities.

ISI's role in madarsas

699. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 125 madarsas in the districts along the West Bengal-Bangladesh borders have been harbouring terrorists belonging to various Islamic Groups and have been preaching terror;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Pakistan's ISI has also been active against India through these madarsas; and

(c) if so, what immediate and fool-proof steps are being taken by Government to close down these madarsas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The Government